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World Literature

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Compilation of Sayings of Red Scarf Girl

An Antirevisionist

“Although teachers do not hold bombs or knives, they are still dangerous enemies. They fill us with insidious revisionist ideas. They teach us that scholars are superior to workers. They promote personal ambition by encouraging competition for the highest grades. All these things are intended to change good young socialists into corrupt revisionists. They are invisible knives that are even more dangerous than real knives or guns. For example, a student from Yu-cai High School killed himself because he failed the university entrance examination. Brainwashed by his teachers, he believed his sole aim in life was to enter a famous university and become a scientist.”

Page 40-41

This da-zi-bao is a 50-50 fact and fiction. While it is a fact that students who fail at grand things will sometimes become so depressed as to commit suicide, it is not the teacher's fault. Neither are teachers wrong for encouraging students to achieve their personal best at everything and to take full advantage of the opportunities of life.

Yin Lan-lan

“As one of its victims, I denounce the revisionist educational system. Being from a working-class family, I have to do a lot more housework than students from rich families. So I have difficulty passing exams. I was forced to repeat grades three times. And I was

not allowed to be a Young Pioneer or to participate in the school choir. The teachers think only of grades when evaluating a student. They forget that we, the working class, are the masters of our socialist country.”

Page 41-42

This da-zi-bao is totally ridiculous. Students throughout history in any country have proven that even if the student is tasked with a more housework than any other student in the school, they can still do well. If Yin Lan-lan fails school, it is only because she does not try hard enough. It is totally and completely her own fault.

The Relationship

“Ke Cheng-li doesn’t like working-class kids. He only likes rich kids. He made Jiang Ji-li the teacher’s assistant for math class and gave her higher grades, and let her win all the math contests and awarded her a lot of notebooks. We have to ask the question, What is the relationship between them after all?”

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Again, this da-zi-bao is completely ridiculous and false. Unless there is a sick sort of teacher-student relationship, this accusation has no basis. Jiang Ji-li earned her grades by studying hard and doing well in class. If she earned her grade, she deserved it.

PLAGIARIZE!